

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 14, and add new claims 15-19, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A shear for mounting to an all-terrain vehicle comprising:
 - a frame for connecting to a support structure of the all-terrain vehicle, the frame comprising:
 - a first frame member comprising a single stanchion for connecting to the all-terrain vehicle; and
 - a second frame member comprising a single metal tube pivotally connected to the first frame member, the second frame member being transverse to the first frame member;
 - a shear attached to the second frame member; and
 - a hydraulic system ~~for actuating the shear~~ attached to the shear for actuating said shear, the hydraulic system being mounted to the all-terrain vehicle.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hydraulic system comprises:
 - a power source separate than that which powers the all-terrain vehicle;
 - a hydraulic pump connected to the power source; and,
 - a control system for controlling the hydraulic system.
3. (Currently Amended) A vegetation cutting apparatus for connection to an all-terrain vehicle with a front grill, the apparatus comprising:
 - a frame for mounting to the front grill of the all-terrain vehicle, the frame comprising;
 - a first frame member comprising a single stanchion for connecting to the front grill of the all-terrain vehicle;

a second frame member comprising a single metal tube attached to the first frame member, the second frame member extending forward relative to the all-terrain vehicle;

a means for cutting vegetation attached to the second frame member; and,

a means for actuating the means for cutting.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the means for actuating comprises:
a first hydraulic cylinder having a first end attached to the means for cutting
and a second end attached to the second frame member; and,
a hydraulic system connected to the first hydraulic cylinder.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the hydraulic system comprises:
a power source separate than that which powers the all-terrain vehicle;
a hydraulic pump connected to the power source; and,
a control system for controlling the hydraulic system.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control system comprises a control valve to actuate the first hydraulic cylinder, wherein the control system is mounted proximate proximal to a seat of the ATV.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first frame ~~portion~~ member and second frame ~~portion~~ member are connected by a supporting member.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the supporting member comprises a second hydraulic cylinder having a proximate proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximate proximal end of the second hydraulic cylinder attaches to the first frame member and the distal end

of the second hydraulic cylinder attaches to the second frame member, and wherein the second hydraulic cylinder connects to the hydraulic system.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[3]] 4, wherein the means for cutting comprises:

a shear comprising a first shear blade member having a ~~blade end~~ proximal end and distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end; and, a second shear blade member having a ~~blade end~~ proximal end and a distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end, the second shear blade member being movable relative to the first shear blade member to cut an object placed between ~~the blade ends of the~~ respective blades of the first and second shear blade members ~~first shear blade member and second shear blade member~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the first blade member and the second blade member are pivotally connected to the second frame member about a common pivot point.

11. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first blade member is connected to the means for actuating by a first linking member, wherein the first linking member is pivotally fastened to the converse end of the blade end of the first blade member and pivotally connected to the hydraulic cylinder of the means for actuating; and wherein the second blade member is connected to the means for actuating by a second linking member, wherein the second linking member is pivotally fastened to the converse end of the blade end of the second blade member and pivotally connected to the hydraulic cylinder of the means for actuating.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first frame member pivotally connects to the second frame member.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first frame member ~~comprises a slotted channel, and the first frame member~~ is attached to the front grill with a first linking brace and a second linking brace, the first linking brace and second linking brace each having a proximate proximal and distal end, wherein the proximate proximal end of the first linking brace is fastened to the first frame member and the distal end of the first linking brace is fastened to the front grill, and wherein the ~~proximate proximal~~ end of the second linking brace is fastened to the first frame member and the distal end of the second linking brace is fastened to the front grill.

14. (Currently Amended) An all terrain vehicle shear system comprising: ~~A shear for connection to an all-terrain vehicle with a front grill, the shear comprising:~~

an all terrain vehicle, the all terrain vehicle comprising a body with a front grill
connected to the body;

a frame ~~for mounting~~ mounted to ~~the front of~~ the all terrain vehicle, the frame comprising:

a ~~first frame member~~ stanchion ~~for connecting~~ connected to the front grill of the all-terrain vehicle;

a ~~second frame member~~ beam transversely attached to the stanchion ~~first frame member,~~ the ~~second frame member~~ extending forward relative to the all-terrain vehicle; and

a hydraulically activated shear attached to a forward portion of the beam, the shear being supported solely by the beam ~~the second frame member.~~

15. (New) The system of claim 14 and further comprising:

a support member connected between the stanchion and the beam.

16. (New) The system of claim 15 wherein the support member is a hydraulic cylinder.
17. (New) The system of claim 14 and further comprising:
a clamping mechanism which secures the frame to the all terrain vehicle, the
clamping mechanism comprising a first plate and a second plate, each plate
containing a plurality of apertures,
wherein the first plate is mounted between a first side of the front grill and the
stanchion, the first plate secured to the stanchion, and the second plate is
mounted to a second side of the front grill;
wherein the plates are secured to the grill with a plurality of fasteners through the
plurality of apertures.
18. (New) The system of claim 14 wherein the shear further comprises:
a first shear blade member having proximal end and distal end, with a blade located
adjacent the distal end;
a second shear blade member having a proximal end and a distal end, with a blade
located adjacent the distal end, the second shear blade member being
movable relative to the first shear blade member to cut an object placed
between respective blades of the first and second shear blade members;
a first linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the
first blade member;
a second linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of
the second blade member;
the first and second linking members pivotally connected about a common pivot
point; and

a hydraulic cylinder in communication with a hydraulic system, a first end of the hydraulic cylinder attached to the beam, and a second end of the hydraulic cylinder attached to the first and second linking members at the common pivot point.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the means for cutting further comprises:
- a first linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the first blade member
 - a second linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the second blade member
 - the first and second linking members pivotally connected to the first end of the first hydraulic cylinder about a common pivot point.